TDeFi | DMCC CRYPTO CENTRE

COHORT 4

WEB3 ACCELERATION PROGRAM

A community-focused, no-cost program designed to fast-track Web3 startups through hands-on mentorship, proven strategies, and the tools they need to succeed.

OUR THESIS

The Web3 ecosystem has seen unprecedented growth in recent years. However, early-stage founders continue to face persistent challenges, from a lack of access to experienced mentors and operators to misinformation and an overall absence of structured, execution-focused guidance.

At **TDeFi**, we've worked closely with startups across the space and realized that while our ongoing support was making a difference, it was not enough to address these issues at scale.

This led to the creation of the **Web3 Acceleration Program** in partnership with DMCC — an eight-week, **zero-cost initiative** designed to provide startups with the mentorship, tools, and ecosystem access needed to build sustainable Web3 ventures. The foundation of this program rests on a simple but powerful belief: growth comes from the right network and support.

TDeFi

1000+ Applications Received

17 Cohort Participants

11 Mentor Sessions

2 Demo Days

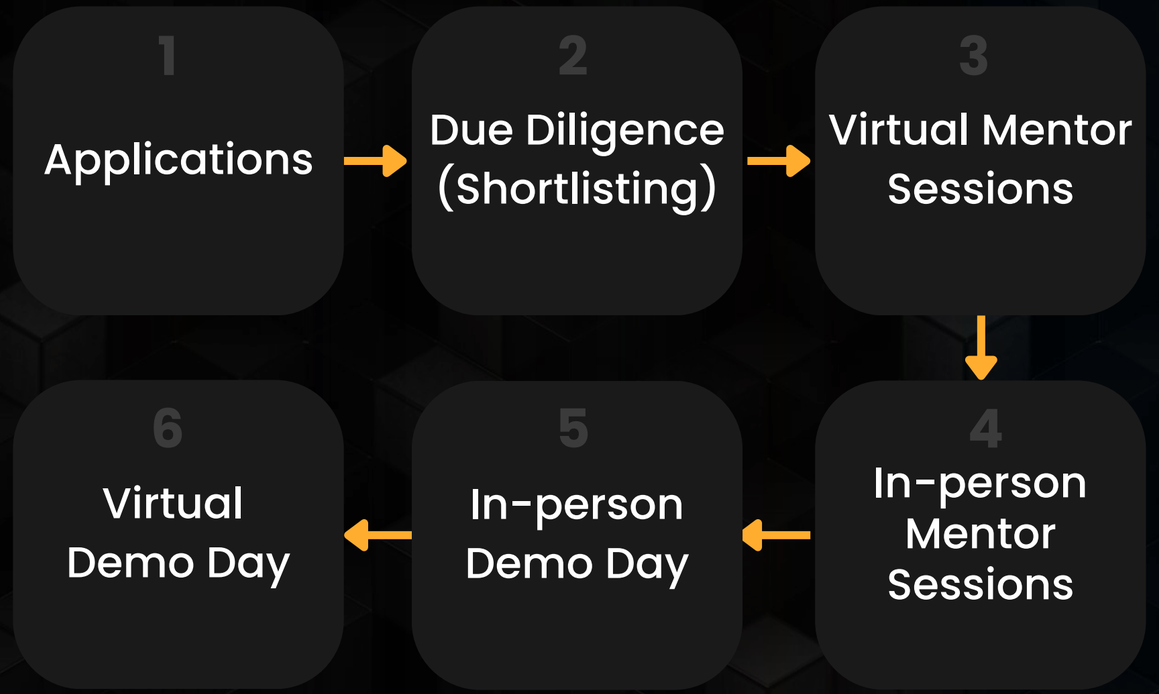
$2Bn AUM in Attendance

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

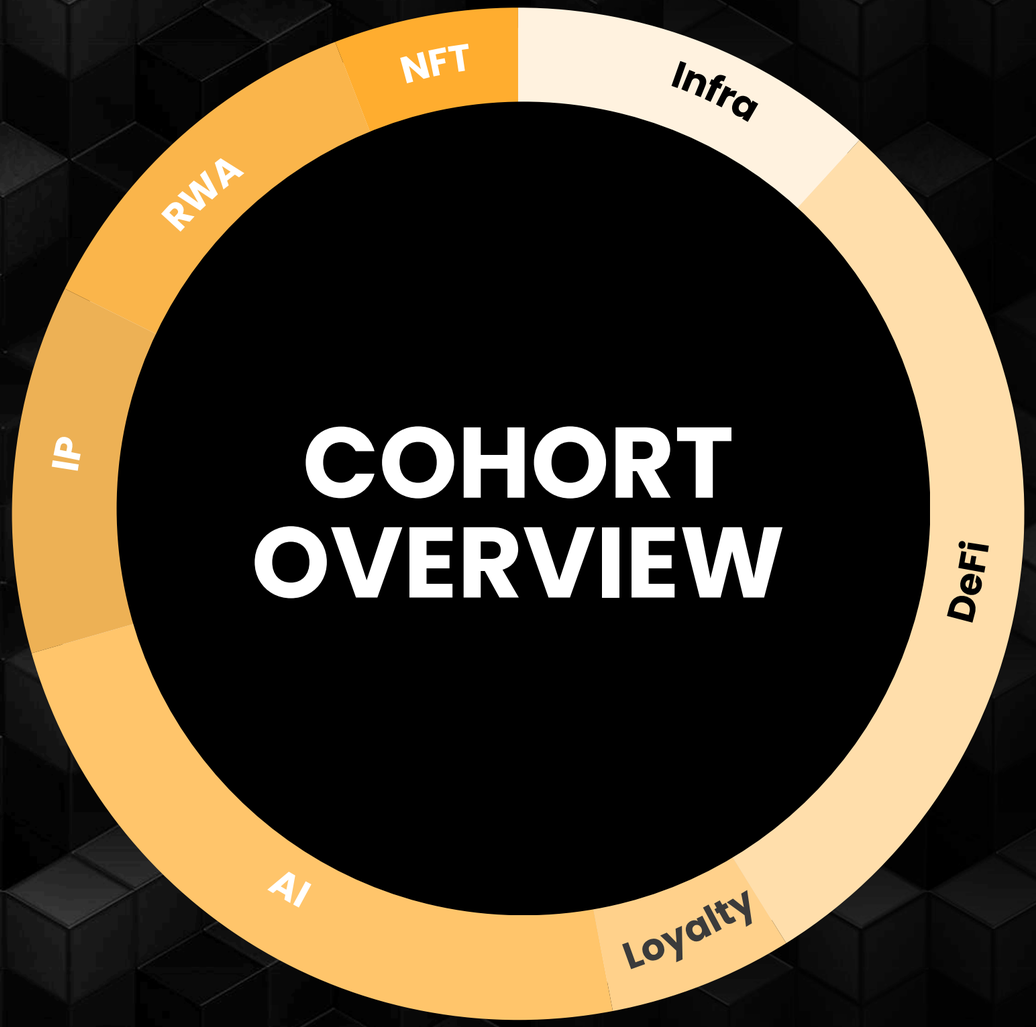
The Web3 Acceleration Program (8-Week)

An initiative focused on providing mentorship, workshops, and strategic connections to Web3 startups. Founders receive expert guidance on scaling, tokenomics, and fundraising, along with access to grants and partner credits. The program culminates in Demo Days, where startups pitch their progress to investors and partners.

Cohort 4 Structure



TDeFi



COHORT OVERVIEW

Cohort 4 brought together 17 innovative startups solving real-world problems in the Web3 space. These startups come from diverse sectors such as DeFi, AI, RWA, IP, and more.

The cohort collectively raised $3.6M, has a user base of over 2M+, and 70% of the startups have live MVPs, demonstrating their strong traction in the market.

With a combined 350+ years of experience, the founders bring expertise from top institutions like IIT, MIT and others.

AI

AI-enhanced DeFi protocols and autonomous trading agents are attracting institutional capital with $262 mn raised this year following a ROI of 15.03% annually, and also optimize blockchain operations through predictive security, smart contract automation, and fraud detection. Amazon, IBM & NVIDIA are some examples of major institutions in the sector.

Furthermore, TDeFi views AI as a major cornerstone in redefining crypto infrastructure, offering scalable solutions for security, efficiency, and innovation with projected growth of CAGR of 37.18% up until 2030 to reach a valuation $5.38 bn.

Blink AI

- A Telegram mini-app rewarding you for blinking, **$900K raised**
- 200K MAUs, blink-to-earn.

PathPulse.ai

- Web3's logistics data layer.
- Dashcam-generated road data for LLMs & maps - **$50K raised**

Vitaminai

- AI agents for identifying real Web3 influencers
- BNB AI Hack winner
- Moves past vanity metrics to surface real reach

GPT360

- AI-powered influencer marketing platform
- **$200K raised,** solves bot-riddled Web3 marketing

DeFi

The sector has seen immense growth in the past and continues to grow at a CAGR of 45.6%, with a total of $1.03 bn raised in funding this year. JP Morgan, Goldman Sachs and BlackRock are only a few examples of companies that have invested in DeFi this year.

TDeFi believes that the DeFi industry is positioned for exceptional growth with an ROI of 363.7% in the past 3 years, driven by technological advancements and institutional participation. While challenges like regulatory ambiguity and security risks remain, innovations in scalability, interoperability, and RWA tokenization are set to unlock new opportunities.

Azos

- Built for regen finance, it's a Stablecoin backed by ESG-positive tokenized assets
- **$150K raised** - Testnet live

Myrkle

- Developer toolkits for tokenization, identity, and cross-chain transactions.
- **$100K in grants**

Nativerse

- (Bitcoin x Liquid Staking)
- Self-service #BTC LST issuance for all validators
- Founders from APAC + MENA infra scene

Papaya Finance

- Cross-border payments & booking for Web3 merchants
- **$531.6K raised** - Backed by **1inch** co-founders

Looser Bracket

- Novel chain, novel consensus.
- LST platform on Bahamut using PoSA algorithm
- **Top 3 at PBW hackathon**

INFRA

The infrastructure sector is expected to grow at a CAGR of 13.1% with an ROI, in the preceding 3 years being 146.4%. The key growth drivers for the forecast are institutional adoption, regulatory clarity, and technological advancements such as Layer-2 scaling and cross-chain interoperability. The infrastructure sector has raised $1.9 bn USD in funding this year, with Meta, IBM, and Accenture being some giants invested in the industry.

The sector is expected to benefit from the migration of tokenized assets and DeFi protocols to public blockchains.

AcadLayer

- NFT-based credential verification for learners issuing verifiable NFTs for skills.
- Solving the trust gap in learning by minting verifiable skill NFTs.

AI Nodes

- Validator-as-a-Service across 15+ chains
- Enterprise staking, simplified
- $500K funding, & team from ITEZ & top infra ops

Flip meme

- Turns memes into #NFT-backed assets
- $1M+ raised
- Backed by Yuga-affiliated funds

RWA

The tokenization of RWAs is rapidly transforming financial markets, bridging traditional assets with blockchain infrastructure. The sector’s impressive growth of 174% in the past year is driven by increasing regulatory clarity, advancement of blockchain technology, and institutional advancement with investments reaching to $11.3 mn this year and ROI reaching roughly 45-60% in the last year.

Research done by TDeFi reflects that the market is expected to diversify beyond real estate and finance into renewable energy, infrastructure, and luxury collectibles.

W3BFLIX

- Web3's streaming & token launchpad on TON
- $65K self-funded
- Rolling Stone Italia partnership

Decentralized Real Estate

- A tangible bet on the $1T RWA narrative.
- XRPL-based platform for fractional real estate - Bootstrapped

IP

AI-enhanced DeFi protocols and autonomous trading agents are attracting institutional capital with $262 mn raised this year following a ROI of 15.03% annually, and also optimize blockchain operations through predictive security, smart contract automation, and fraud detection. Amazon, IBM & NVIDIA are some examples of major institutions in the sector.

Furthermore, TDeFi views AI as a major cornerstone in redefining crypto infrastructure, offering scalable solutions for security, efficiency, and innovation with projected growth of CAGR of 37.18% up until 2030 to reach a valuation $5.38 bn.

TOO3 (FLKZ)

- A tokenized webtoon platform
- 1,500+ titles
- Ex-Toomics founders
- NFTs power reader incentives

Reinvent DAO

- Tokenized IP marketplace for professional services
- Bringing expertise as an asset to DAOs.
- Currently raising $3M
- Built by ex-HSBC PMs & legal pros

Loyalty

The loyalty industry has experienced remarkable transformation and growth over the past three years, driven by technological innovation and shifting consumer expectations. The growth has also been fueled by rapid adoption, new revenue streams from tokenized assets and DeFi integrations. Global institutions like Lufthansa & Visa have invested in this sector this year with blockchain based projects.

TDeFi believes that the industry has the potential to exceed the aforementioned returns through well-executed loyalty platforms, especially those leveraging tokenization, interoperability, and cross-brand partnerships to drive network effects and customer retention.

Loyelto

- Enables tokenized loyalty swaps across brands
- Student-led
- Early mover in the loyalty token economy.

TDeFi

66
Hours

MENTORSHIP OVERVIEW

1. Entrepreneurship & Vision
2. Product Development & Strategy
3. Market Strategy & Growth
4. Tokenomics & Blockchain Security
5. Fundraising & Investor Relations
6. Regulations & Compliance

HIGHLIGHTS OF MENTOR SESSIONS

Journey of an Entrepreneur

Gaurav Dubey shared his entrepreneurial journey, the vision behind TDeFi, and the core objectives of the program, offering valuable lessons for aspiring Web3 founders.

Finding Your PMF (Product-Market Fit)

Shiti Rastogi walked through the steps to identify target markets, craft value propositions, and validate product assumptions to achieve Product-Market Fit.

UAE Landscape of Licensing, Regulations, and Compliance

Zaher El Orm discussed the UAE's regulatory landscape for crypto businesses, explaining how DMCC helps navigate licensing and compliance challenges.

Gaurav Dubey
Chairman
TradeDog Group

Shiti Rastogi
FSL

Zaher El Orm
DMCC
DMCC CRYPTO CENTRE

HIGHLIGHTS OF MENTOR SESSIONS

Product Innovation and Design

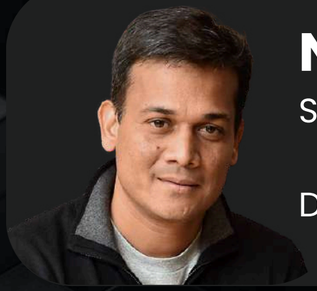
Nitin Gaur explored product innovation in the digital asset space, focusing on user needs, scalable design, and aligning features with market demands.

Fund Raise Strategy

Aly discussed how to approach investors, understand business needs, and prepare for fundraising.

Crafting Your Go-To-Market (GTM) Strategy

Tsz Chung provided insights into creating a compelling GTM strategy, securing early adopters, and defining key metrics for success in launching Web3 products.



Nitin Gaur
Senior Advisor

DTCC Digital Asset

Aly Madhavji
Managing Partner

BLOCKCHAIN FOUNDERS FUND

Tsz Chung
Investment Partner

ArkStream Capital

HIGHLIGHTS OF MENTOR SESSIONS

User Onboarding and Retention

Jad Chahine discussed how to design effective onboarding and retention strategies to ensure long-term user engagement and loyalty.

Launchpads, Influencers & Community Growth

Alex Radu discussed successful token launch strategies, influencer management, and key performance indicators (KPIs) to drive community growth, thereby avoiding costly missteps.

Token Engineering

Rishabh Gupta covered the fundamentals of designing a sustainable token ecosystem, including transaction mapping and token allocation for long-term project value.

Jad Chahine
Founding Partner
Superscrypt

Alex Radu
Founder & CEO
ASTRARIZON

Rishabh Gupta
Director
TradeDog Group

TDeFi

HIGHLIGHTS OF MENTOR SESSIONS

VC Pitching

Khalid Mazouz shared tips on how to deliver a pitch that resonates with investors, crafting compelling narratives and mastering in-the-room dynamics to win VC interest.

Fundraise Strategy

Oleksii Avramenko delved into the full fundraising lifecycle, from approaching investors to negotiating terms and managing post-investment relationships.

Audit and Smart Contract Checklist

Dyma Budorin provided a checklist for launching secure and compliant smart contracts, covering audits, security best practices, and the role of bug bounties in risk mitigation.

Khalid Mazouz
General Partner
m55

Oleksii Avramenko
Principal
MONOLITH

Dyma Budorin
CEO
HACKEN

DEMO DAY OVERVIEW

Token 2049 (In-Person)

- Number of VC attendees: 13
- Number of Startups: 13
- Top performers: R3vl, Helix, DeFa

Online Demo Day

- Number of VC attendees: 09
- Number of Startups: 07
- Top performers: Azos, Pathpulse

TDeFi

EXPERT JUDGES

James Quinn
Partner, Black Edge Capital

Jad Chahine
Founding Partner
Superscrypt

CHERRY KOO
Executive
Partnership & Ecosystem,
DMCC CRYPTO CENTRE

Richard Wang
Managing Partner,
Draper Dragon
DRAPER DRAGON

Pierre Kaklamanos
Ecosystem Development Manager
Cardano Foundation

Tsz Chung
Investment Partner
ArkStream Capital

Petro Yanytskyi
Senior Investment Analyst
MONOLITH

Dr. Ankur Pathak
Principal
LONDONREAL VENTURES

Khalid Mazouz
General Partner
m55

Aly Madhavji
CEO
BLOCKCHAIN FOUNDERS FUND

Alec Goh
Head of HTX Ventures
HTX Ventures

Mona Tiesler
Investment Manager
tokentus

Geng Kai
Investment Manager
DFG

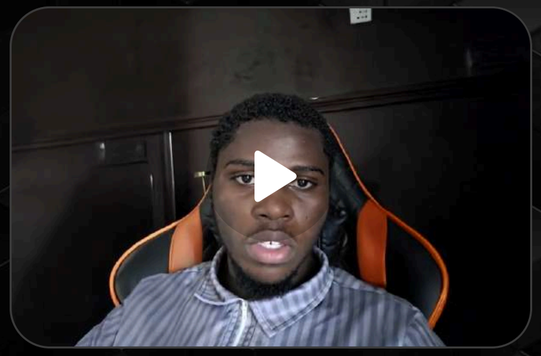
Anton K
Associate
V3V

Sebastien
VP
AQUANOW

Constantin Kogan
Partner, TDVC
TDVC

INVESTOR ENGAGEMENT

FEEDBACK



Alec Goh HTX Ventures
Thanks @IR_TDG @rishabh_[redacted] for organizing the pitch session, very efficient schedule 🙏

AliyaDG
my pleasure entirely, really great event :)
20:11

Anton Krasnov V3V Ventures
Thank you so much for organizing great event @IR_TDG @rishabh_[redacted]

I was more than happy to participate there.

Let me share a few blurbs of the companies that we've recently supported
9:13 PM

Alex Radu
thank you guys! 20:35

appreciate having me on the mentor session 20:36

That was pretty well organized event, I enjoyed it so much.
Thanks for having me

Alex Radu
hi team! thanks foe having us!
17:52

TDeFi
TradeDog Token Growth Studio

TDeFi is a leading Token Growth Studio, enabling Web3 startups to build sustainable tokenomics and establish market leadership. Our expertise spans strategic advisory, liquidity management, and brand positioning, ensuring projects are not only well-structured but also well-recognized.

Through our extensive network of investors, institutional players, key opinion leaders (KOLs), and industry pioneers as mentors, we drive meaningful connections that accelerate adoption and long-term value creation. Having helped 120+ startups and 5+ unicorns, TDeFi has a proven track record of transforming ambitious projects into established market leaders.

Cohort 4's founders raised $3.6 million and shipped live MVPs entirely on their own, proof that early victories are just the beginning.

At TDeFi, we back that drive with targeted mentorship and demo days that deliver strategic introductions, empowering founders to strengthen one another and the wider ecosystem. In partnership with DMCC, we've built an environment where expert guidance fuels both rapid growth and market leadership.

Gaurav Dubey
Chairman,
TradeDog Group

DMCC
CRYPTO CENTRE

Headquartered in Dubai, DMCC is the world's most interconnected Free Zone, and the leading trade and enterprise hub for commodities. Whether developing vibrant neighbourhoods with world-class property like Jumeirah Lakes Towers and the much-anticipated Uptown Dubai, or delivering high performance business services, DMCC provides everything its dynamic community needs to live, work and thrive. Made for Trade, DMCC is proud to sustain and grow Dubai's position as the place to be for global trade today and long into the future.

www.dmcc.ae

DMCC is proud to be at the forefront of advancing the global Web3 ecosystem. Our partnership with TDeFi and the continued success of the Web3 Acceleration Programme reflect our commitment to enabling high-potential startups to scale with purpose and impact. The achievements of Cohort 4 – from capital raised and MVPs launched to the diversity and quality of founders – highlight the strength of our innovation ecosystem and the value of targeted support. At DMCC, we are focused on creating the conditions that allow emerging technologies to thrive, while reinforcing the position of Dubai as a global hub for Web3, blockchain and the digital economy.

Belal Jassoma

Senior Director - Tech Ecosystems
DMCC

Thank You

For taking the time to read this report. If you are someone who would like to join our next cohort or someone who would like to host an acceleration program with TDeFi, reach out: hi@tde.fi

tde.fi